



Leading the Pack  
Disaster Response Partnerships

## **- For Immediate Release -**

February, 5, 2009

### Pre-Notice

State of Arizona and Maricopa County getting ready to test disaster preparedness during five-day event beginning March 9, 2009  
*Coyote Crisis Campaign (CCC) will focus on exercise planning issues surrounding an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) domestic terrorist attack*

*Approximately 25 hospitals from the Phoenix area will participate in the exercise along with police and fire departments from the federal, state, county and local levels*

Coyote Crisis is a federal, state, local, and countywide disaster preparedness exercise being conducted March 9 - 13, 2009. Approximately 1,200 volunteers will be used to assist in an important portion of this exercise on March 10th, 2009. The majority of the volunteers will be used as mock victims to assist in the evaluation of the State's Mobile Medical Response (MMR) and the hospitals response to a domestic terrorist attack involving an "Improvised Explosive Device".

"The region is assessing the ability of responding fire service participants from 10 to 15 different agencies to triage, treat and transport 100 victims in a four-hour time period following the mock detonation of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED)," said Gil Damiani, Mesa Fire Department, Assistant Chief.

"The ASU Police Department and members from the Arizona Department of Public Safety, along with members from other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies will participate in Coyote Crisis 2009 in an effort to build upon our already great working relationships. Though several areas will be evaluated, we will focus heavily on interoperability and interaction with other emergency responders to control, mitigate, and recover from a major incident," said Allen Clark, Arizona State University, Assistant Chief of Police.

"Approximately 25 hospitals from the Phoenix area will participate in the Coyote Crisis exercise. Exercise objectives for participating hospitals include evaluating mass casualty management, fatality management, forensic evidence collection, family notification and reunification, and medical surge. Special emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of interoperable communication plans and systems," said Andrew Lawless, MBA, PMP - Section Chief, Education and Exercise, Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Arizona Department of Health Services.

We would like the media's assistance in getting the word out to the public that this exercise will be taking place and that on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March they may see a significant amount of emergency services units, especially in the ASU area of Tempe, moving around the city in support of this exercise. All factions of public safety, healthcare, and the business community will be tested throughout this week. More information to follow in weeks to come.

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